MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Am I to understand that, because the agreement happens to be silent on the matter, the Government can put off the construction of the building indefinitely?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government are not postponing it indefinitely. As soon as funds become available for this purpose, Government will begin work.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Should not the Government keep their word?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Their word is only that they would put up the building; and they will surely do it.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): May I know when they choose to do it.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): As soon as funds are available.

Reduction of the minimum fixed for loans issued from the Land Mortgage Bank.

242. MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received representations for modifying the rule with regard to the minimum fixed for the loans issued from the Land Mortgage Bank?

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): No representations have been received but steps are being taken to reduce the minimum from Rs. 500 to Rs. 250.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): On what basis was this minimum of Rs. 500 fixed?

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): The minimum of Rs. 500 was considered to be a reasonable amount for the purpose.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): From the standard of the ordinary ryot of Travancore, or of the Government?

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): From both.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): What is the average wealth of a ryot in Travancore?

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Statistics are not available on that matter.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): May I know then how the Government were able to conclude that Rs. 500 was a reasonable figure from the stand-point of the ryot also?

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): There is an idea now to reduce the minimum to Rs. 250.

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MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Is not the applicant for a loan bound to furnish security to the value of double the amount he has applied for?

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): And, do the Government consider that the ordinary ryot in Travancore, who is in most cases heavily indebted, will be in a position to furnish good security to the value of Rs. 500 even?

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): There was a proposal to reduce the minimum to Rs. 250.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*). May I know when that will be brought into effect?

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Soon.

Establishment of Municipal toll-gates in Changanachery.

243. MR. JOSEPH KUNJU (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have received any applications from the Changanachery Municipality requesting sanction to establish a Municipal toll-gate each on the Vazhur road and the M. C. road within the municipal limits of Changanachery; and

(*b*) if so, the decision arrived at by them in the matter?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The question is awaiting the decision of the general question of maintenance of roads within municipal limits, now pending before Government.

Administration of the Kottayam Municipality.

244. MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have received any representations in 1106 and 1107 complaining of serious irregularities in the administration of the Kottayam Municipality;

(*b*) the names and representative character of the persons who submitted such complaints; and

(*c*) whether they called for an explanation from the President of the Kottayam Municipality and whether he has submitted any, and, if so, whether they will lay it on the table?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) (i) Mr. Abraham John, Municipal Councillor, Kottayam;

(ii) Mr. C. N. Sankara Panikkar, Municipal Councillor, Kottayam;

(iii) Mr. K. N. Sankunni Pillai, B. A., B. L., Municipal Councillor, Kottayam; and

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